



City & County of the City of Chester.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND
COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER

on the

HEALTH OF THE CITY
IN 1938

by

J. W. LOBBAN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1937-7938.

Chairman - - - COUNCILLOR R. W. DUNN.
Deputy-Chairman - - - COUNCILLOR E. E. ASHTON

Members :

ALDERMAN A. S. DUTTON.	COUNCILLOR S. JANE DUNNE.
„ F. D. PRICE.	„ EDITH BATY.
„ CHARLES SCONCE.	„ T. J. DAVIES.
COUNCILLOR A. CHARMLEY.	„ R. MATTHEWS JONES.
„ A. DAVIES.	„ DAVID R. OWEN.
„ T. M. HOOSON.	„ W. E. PYCRAFT.
	„ T. D. GILBRIDE.

The Mayor (ALDERMAN GEORGE BARLOW) is an *ex-officio* member of all Committees of the Council.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals, and Tuberculosis Officer.	J. W. Lobban, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health, and Deputy School Medical Officer, etc.	H. E. C. Sutton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector, Factory Acts, Supervision, etc.	*†S. H. Moore, F.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector, etc.	*†W. B. Calder, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
District Additional Sanitary Inspectors	*†W. H. Wilkinson, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A. *†G. E. Jarvis, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.
Assistant District Inspector	H. J. Hewitt, M.S.I.A.
Housing Inspector	*M. G. H. Tresidder, C.R.S.I.
Abattoir Superintendent and Assistant Meat Inspector.	*J. H. Withington, M.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor and Assistant Inspector of Midwives.	‡Miss M. H. Beattie, S.R.N., H.V.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS—continued.

Health Visitors	‡Miss E. Brayne, S.R.N. ‡Miss L. Robson, A.R.SAN.I., M.I.H. ‡Mrs. A. E. Austin, S.R.N. ‡Miss Z. K. Wilkins, S.R.N., H.V.C. ‡Miss M. A. Owen, S.R.N., H.V.C.
Chief Clerk	F. Thomas.
Assistant Clerks	§T. R. Blythe, A.M.S.I.A. J. Adamson.
Assistant Clerk (Part time, School Medical)	R. W. Hudson.
Assistant Clerk and Laboratory Attendant (Part time, School Medical)	C. Stoddard.
Matron, Isolation Hospital	Miss L. Taylor, S.R.N.

CITY HOSPITAL.

Senior Resident Medical Officer	H. A. Freeman, M.R.C.S.
Junior Resident Medical Officers ...	H. W. Chadfield, M.R.C.S. A. G. Powell, M.B., Ch.B.
Consulting Surgeons	J. N. Adam, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E. A. W. Holgate, M.S., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Physician	A. B. Paul, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.
Consulting Gynaecologist	J. G. Wigley, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.	A. W. McCay, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.R.C.E.
Consulting Radiologists	R. S. Topham, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E., D.P.H. R. F. Innes, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E.
Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon ...	E. F. Wilson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.
Consulting Dental Surgeon	E. N. Sterndale Bennett, L.D.S.
Steward	E. Bennion.
Matron	Miss Moss
Almoner	Miss Hyde
Radiographer	Miss Pugh

† Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection.

* Certificate Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection.

§ Certificate, Liverpool University, Sanitary Science.

‡ Certificate Central Midwives Board.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report upon the health of the City in 1938. The vital statistics are based upon a population of 44,360, supplied by the Registrar-General, and may be studied in detail in the report.

You will appreciate the extensive and varied nature of the work carried out during the year from the various tables submitted.

The burden of civil defence laid upon all local government departments weighs not the least heavily on a Public Health Department. Much of the time of the Public Health staff since September, 1938, has been taken up with the medical aspects of A.R.P. This burden has been shouldered manfully and has not affected the normal output of work to any extent as will be seen from this report.

I wish to pay tribute to the work of my staff during the past year, and to their continued loyalty.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. LOBBAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

City and County of the City of Chester

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA.

Area in Acres	4,142
Population (Registrar-General) middle of 1938	44,360
Number of inhabited houses end of 1938 from Rate Books ...	11,951
Rateable Value	£392,153
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,541

The secretary of the Employment Exchange, Chester, has very kindly furnished me with the following particulars of unemployment in the City in 1938.

The total number of unemployed workpeople on the registers on 12th December, 1938, was 2,124, a decrease of 53 compared with 1937.

The register of 2,124, included 1,598 men, 401 women, 41 boys and 84 girls.

The percentage of insured workers unemployed on the 12th December, 1938, was 10.8 per cent. men, 10.4 per cent. women, 2.2 per cent. boys, 6.0 per cent. girls, and for all workpeople combined 9.6 per cent.

The percentages shown are lower than those of 1937, but actually there is little difference in the numbers unemployed, the lower percentage figure being due to an increased number of insured workers.

The general position for 1938 was that apart from a few industries employment continued to show further improvement. Employment was good for skilled workers, but the number of unskilled or semi-skilled men unemployed remained fairly large.

The metal window casement industry is now the most important local industry and employs chiefly male labour.

A large proportion of the workers in Chester is engaged in industries such as railway and transport services, hotels and catering trades, distributive trades and in local and other government services.

The following are extracts from the vital statistics of the year—

The estimated population of the City at the middle of 1938 as given by the Registrar-General was 44,360.

	M.	Total.	F.	Rate per 1000 population.
Live Births				Birth Rate 14.5
Legitimate	312		301	
Illegitimate	18		13	

Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births, 34.4.

Death Rate—Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and parturition :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live & still births),
from sepsis	2	2.9
from other causes	3	4.4
Total ...	5	7.1

Death Rates of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	74.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	70.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	61.2

	Number.	Rate.
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	70	1.5
Deaths from measles (all ages)	0	0.00
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	1	0.02
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years)	6	0.13

THE BIRTH RATE.

The birth rate shows a decrease of 0.2 from that of 1937, being 14.5 compared with 14.7 in 1937. The figures for the last five years are as follows :—

	England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Chester.
1934	14.8	15.0	16.0
1935	14.7	14.8	14.0
1936	14.8	15.0	15.1
1937	14.9	15.3	14.7
1938	15.1	15.4	14.5

STILL BIRTHS.

There were 23 still births registered in the City in 1938 belonging to Chester, giving a rate of 34.4 per 1,000 total births.

INFANT DEATH RATE.

The infant death rate for the year is 74.3 per 1,000 live births, an increase of 14.7 from last year. There were 48 deaths in infants under 1 year compared with 39 in 1937.

20 of these deaths were due to prematurity or congenital debility, and 17 were due to pneumonia.

The position of Chester is shown in the following table :—

	England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Chester.
1932	65	58	53.9
1933	64	56	67.7
1934	59	53	71.8
1935	57	55	75.8
1936	59	55	51.3
1937	55	58	59.6
1938	53	51	74.3

GENERAL DEATH RATE.

The deaths of Chester residents in 1938 numbered 601, giving a death rate of 14.0 compared with 14.7 in 1937.

150 deaths occurred in the age group 75 years and over, representing 24.9 per cent. of the total deaths.

141 deaths occurred in the age group 65-75 years, representing 23.4 per cent. of deaths. From these figures it will be seen that the total number of deaths in the age group 65 years and over represents 48.3 per cent. of the total deaths compared with 48.8 per cent. in 1937.

Heart disease accounted for 165 deaths and other circulatory conditions for 24 deaths. Deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 72, of which 63 were due to pneumonia.

Deaths from cancer numbered 70. Of these, 16 were in the age group 75 years and over, and 20 in the age group 65-75 years.

Pulmonary tuberculosis accounted for 25 deaths and there were 7 deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

With regard to infectious diseases the following deaths occurred—measles 0, scarlet fever 1, whooping cough 1, diphtheria 9, influenza 8.

Suicide accounted for 4 deaths, and other violence for 20 deaths.

The comparison of Chester with the figures supplied by the Registrar-General for England and Wales and smaller towns is set out below.

The crude death rate has been multiplied by the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General.

	England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Chester.
1938	11.6	11.0	14.0

Our death rates from infectious diseases are given in the following comparative statement:—

	England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Chester.
Enteric Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.04	0.03	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.02
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.07	0.06	0.23
Influenza	0.11	0.11	0.18
Diarrhoea under 2 years (per 1,000 births)	5.5	3.6	8.9

There were two deaths due to puerperal sepsis, and three due to other puerperal causes

These rates are best expressed per 1,000 total births:—
1938—

	England and Wales.	Chester.
Deaths from puerperal sepsis	0.89	2.9
Deaths from other puerperal causes	2.19	4.4

1.—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.—(see front page).

2.—(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There is a Corporation laboratory in the Public Health Department in which suspected material sent by practitioners, or arising in the municipal hospitals or clinics, is examined.

Fortnightly bacteriological examinations of the water supply are also made, each individual filter bed, the mixed waters, water from a consumer's tap and from the River being examined.

A chemical examination of the water is made each month.

Samples of milk and specimens requiring guinea pig inoculation for the presence of tubercle bacilli are sent to the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary.

The following is a statement of the work done during the year :—

LABORATORY WORK.

Material.	Examined for	Positive	Negative.	TOTAL.
Sputum	Tubercle bacillus ...	66	198	264
Sputum	Specified organisms ...	2	1	3
Swabs, (Ear, Nose or Throat)	Diphtheria bacillus ...	174	2762	2936
Swabs	Specified organisms ...	19	10	29
Pus	Specified organisms ...	9	—	9
Urine	Specified organisms ...	22	14	36
"	Paratyphoid bacillus ...	—	2	2
Fæces	Specified Organisms ...	1	2	3
"	Paratyphoid bacillus ...	—	2	2
Smear	Gonococcus	7	3	10
Blood	Widal reaction	—	2	2
"	Specified organisms ...	1	—	1
Plural Effusion ...	Specified organisms ...	1	1	2
Pus	Tubercle bacillus ...	—	1	1
Swabs (Throat) ...	Haem. Strept	1	9	10
Totals		303	3007	3310

Samples of water examined bacteriologically	223
Samples of water examined chemically	12
Samples of bath water examined bacteriologically	18
Samples of milk examined bacteriologically	36

Total examinations 3599

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Two ambulances are provided by the Corporation for general purposes and are stationed at the Fire Station where a driver is always available. At the Isolation Hospital two ambulances are available for infectious diseases and also a van for the removal of infected bedding. The ambulance driver resides in a lodge at the Hospital.

The ambulance facilities are adequate for the district.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nursing Association carries out a considerable amount of valuable and highly appreciated work in Home Nursing.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

The following clinics are administered by the Local Authority :—

	Situation.	Accommodation.
1. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Princess Street ...	Waiting room, weighing room, consulting room.
2. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Curzon St., Saltney	Waiting and weighing room, consulting room.
3. Ante-Natal Clinic	Princess Street ...	Waiting room, consulting room.
4. School Clinic (inspection) ...	„	„
5. School Clinic (treatment) ...	„	„
6. Ultra Violet Ray Clinic ...	„	„
7. Tuberculosis Clinic ...	2, King's Buildings	„
8. Venereal Disease Centre ...	Chester Royal Infirmary	Waiting, treatment and ablution room.

A Local Committee under the auspices of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John of Jerusalem administers the

9. Orthopædic after care Clinic	2, King's Buildings	Waiting room and consulting room.
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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. *Princess Street Clinic.*—Two sessions are held weekly and a medical officer attends for consultation.

The babies and children under the age of 5 years are regularly weighed and records of progress kept.

When necessary children and mothers are seen by the Medical Officer.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

(a) by children under 1 year of age	2634
(b) by children between the ages of one and five years	4357
(c) by mothers	5267

(2) *Saltney Clinic.*—The same Medical Officer attends this clinic which meets once weekly.

The following attendances were made during the year :—

(a) by children under 1 year	739
(b) by children between the ages of one and five years	1301
(c) by mothers	1670

The following were the consultations with the Medical Officer :—

	Princess Street	Saltney
First visits of children under 1 year ...	272	71
Subsequent visits	889	391
Children (1—5 years) first visits	83	46
Subsequent visits	1451	71
Mothers (consultations)	52	30

A voluntary body—the Chester Infant Welfare Committee have a rota of voluntary workers who attend these clinics and provide tea, etc., for the mothers.

In addition, garments, etc., for babies are provided for necessitous cases.

During the year outings are held for the mothers and teas at Christmas.

The work of this Committee is much appreciated.

(3) *Ante-Natal Clinic*.—The ante-natal clinic is held once a week under the charge of the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Expectant mothers are examined and advised, and the midwife interested in the case is written to if not present.

During the year the Medical Officer has seen 215 mothers who have paid 399 visits.

Cases were sent to Hospital if requiring special treatment, or if the home conditions were such as to contra indicate home confinement.

Ante-natal clinics are also held at the Maternity Hospital and City Hospital.

Attendance at these clinics are detailed below :—

Maternity Hospital—

Number of mothers seen 124

Number of attendances 456

City Hospital—

Number of mothers seen 193

Number of attendances 359

The total attendances at ante-natal clinics in the City represents 79.7 per cent. of total notified births.

(4) *The School Clinic (Inspection)* meets every School-day and is in charge of the Deputy School Medical Officer.

(5) *The School Clinic (Treatment)* meets on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and is under the charge of the same medical officer.

(6) *Ultra Violet Ray Clinic*.

Total number attending during the year :—

Children under school age 10

Children of school age 30

Adults 2

Total number of attendances made 981

Average number of attendances of each patient 23

Summary of conditions under school age—

Debility	8
Malnutrition	1
Rickets	1

Summary of conditions over 5 years—

Debility	12
Malnutrition	1
Asthma	3
Neck Glands	7
Abdominal Tuberculosis	1
Bronchial Catarrh	1
Other Conditions	5

(7) The *Tuberculosis Clinic* meets on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and on Thursdays at 6 p.m.

The number of patients on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year was	257
Number of new cases examined	95
Number of contacts examined	23
Number of attendances at the Dispensary	231
Number of attendances at Cheshire Joint Sanatorium for refills in artificial pneumothorax	26
Number of visits of tuberculosis officer to homes	45
Number of "T.B. plus" cases on the Register	31
Number of visits of nurses to tuberculous persons (including those under Tuberculosis Regulations)	1126
Number of X-ray examinations made	154

(8) *Venereal Diseases Centre* :—

The following sessions are held :—

- Monday (5—7 p.m.) female.
- Wednesday (5—7 p.m.) male.
- Thursday (5—7 p.m.) female.
- Saturday (12—2 p.m.) male.

The clinic is open all day for irrigations, and trained assistants are in attendance.

The clinic is a joint one for Chester and the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The following is a table of the work done in 1938—

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal.		Total.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number of Cases at beginning of year	86	51	157	59	9	7	252	117
Number attending for first time 1938 ...	39	27	145	54	15	11	199	92
Ceased to attend or transferred to other centres	13	8	26	11	—	—	39	19
Discharged	5	8	61	5	—	—	66	13
Number under treatment at end of year	107	62	215	97	24	18	346	177

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during the year for the last five years :—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Syphilis	15	13	17	22	14
Gonorrhoea	47	49	45	28	52
Conditions other than venereal	10	3	6	8	11

The number of attendances made by Chester patients was 3,860 and the number of in-patient days was 256.

(9) The *Orthopaedic After-Care Clinic* meets once a week when the cases are seen by the specialist staff of the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry. During the year 195 cases were under treatment and they made 1,104 attendances.

The distribution of the cases was as follows :—

Arthritis	7
Congenital Deformities	24
Claw foot	5
Erb's Palsy	2
Flat foot	24
Hallux Rigidus	0
Hallux Valgus	2
Injuries	13
Knock Knees	23
Osteomyelitis	1
Poliomyelitis	12
Rickets	13
Postural Defects	3
Scoliosis	6

Spastic diplegia	0
Spastic hemiplegia	6
Spastic monoplegia	1
Spastic paraplegia	4
Surgical tuberculosis	20
Query Surgical Tuberculosis	0
Torticollis	1
Perthe's Disease	2
Coxa Vara	0
Others	19

	On Books 1 1/38	Admitted during 1938	No. Treated during 1938	Discharged during 1938	On Books 31/12/38		Attendances during 1938
					Active Treat- ment	Apphance Super- vision	
Under 5 years ...	44	16	60	25	35	—	397
5—16 years ...	43	21	64	10	54	—	445
16 years and over ...	42	9	51	29	16	6	108
Tubercular Cases (all ages)	15	5	20	3	15	2	154
Totals ...	144	51	195	67	120	8	1104

I have to thank most cordially once again the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem whose enthusiasm and help combine to make a success of the clinic.

Much good work is done in after-care of cripples by the Members of these societies.

During 1938 there were 19 Chester patients sent by the Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committee and the Tuberculosis Officer to the Robert Jones and the Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, and 7 remained from 1937.

These patients spent 2,760 in-patient days in hospital.

The staff of the Hospital continue to co-operate with the Medical Staff of the Local Authority in the most helpful manner.

(c) HOSPITALS.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	No. of Available Beds.	Pro- portion used by City Residents.	Management
Chester Royal Infirmary	City ...	General ...	225	$\frac{1}{4}$	Voluntary Agency
City Hospital	City ...	General ...	288	$\frac{19}{20}$	Local Authority
Maternity Hospital...	City ...	Maternity ...	8	$\frac{5}{9}$	Voluntary Agency
Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	Market Drayton	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	250	$\frac{1}{30}$	Joint Committee

Name.	Situation.	Purpose,	No. of Available Beds,	Pro-portion used by City Residents.	Management.
Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital	Gobowen	... Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other crippling conditions	300	$\frac{1}{18}$	Voluntary Agency
Isolation Hospital	... 1 mile from centre of City	Infectious Diseases	64	$\frac{8}{6}$	Local Authority
Tuberculosis Pavilion, Sealand	" "	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	26	$\frac{3}{1}$	Local Authority
Smallpox Hospital	" "	Smallpox	10	—	Local Authority
Cheshire Joint Board for Mentally Defective	Holmes Chapel	Mental Defectives	318	$\frac{1}{10}$	Joint Board
Liverpool Sanatorium	Delamere	... Pulmonary Tuberculosis	175	$\frac{1}{18}$	Voluntary Agency

The location and amount of bed accommodation for various conditions is given where possible in the following table:—

			Chester Royal Infirmary.	City Hospital.	Isolation Hospital Chester.	Cheshire Joint Sanatorium.	Liverpool Sanatorium Delamere	Cheshire Joint Board for the Mentally Defective	Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital
General Medical	...	M	16	10	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	16	16	—	—	—	—	—
General Surgical	...	M	52	14	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	32	10	—	—	—	—	—
Gynæcological	...	...	15	6	—	—	—	—	—
Children	...	...	26	40	—	—	—	—	—
Maternity	...	...	—	36	—	—	—	—	—
Venereal Diseases	...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Pulmonary		M	—	—	—	4*	*6†	—	—
"	"	F	—	—	—	4*	*2†	—	—
"	" Children	—	—	—	—	—	*2†	—	—
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmon.		M	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
"	"	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
"	" Children	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
Chronic Sick	...	M	—	22	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	—	32	—	—	—	—	—
Orthopædic	...	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	†
"	...	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	†
Ear, Nose and Throat		M	5	—†	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	5	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		—	—†	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmic	...	M	6	—†	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	6	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	—	—	66	—	—	—	—
Mental Defectives	...	M	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
"	...	F	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
Isolation Wards	...	...	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Private Wards	...	...	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	..	...	—	6	—	—	—	—	—

* Beds used by Chester County Borough.

† Beds given as required

‡ Extra Beds provided if necessary.

Chester Royal Infirmary.

The Royal Infirmary is fully staffed, with special departments in radiology, ear, nose and throat, ophthalmology and gynaecology, and also for the treatment of cancer with radium. There are 225 beds. During the year the Psychiatric clinic met weekly on Thursdays at 3 p.m. During 1938 55 patients had attended, 12 of these being Chester patients. The total number of attendances was 147 of which 14 were made by Chester patients. Beds required by the clinic can be had by arrangement with the Honorary Medical Staff.

Chester City Hospital.

During the year a visiting physician and third resident medical officer were appointed. The conversion of the annexe to nurses' quarters was commenced.

The following statistics show the increase in the work done :—

The number of admissions, etc., has shown an increase.

	1935	1936	1937	1938
Admissions	1377	1529	1832	2017
Births	120	173	195	270
Discharges	1201	1362	1578	1808
Surgical operations	156	270	330	356

Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1938 :—

	1938	(1937)
Number of Admissions	2017	(1832)
Number of women confined in hospital	268	(195)
Number of live births	253	(178)
Number of still births	17	(17)
Number of deaths among newly born	9	(10)
Total number of deaths under 1 year	38	(24)
Number of maternal deaths	3	(3)
Total number of deaths	235	(226)
Total number of discharges	1808	(1578)
Duration of stay—		
(a) under 4 weeks	1464	(1109)
(b) 4 to 13 weeks	402	(340)
(c) 13 weeks and over	177	(165)
Average number of beds occupied	168	(188)
(a) highest	191 29/1/38	(205) (6/2/37)
(b) lowest	110 13/8/38	(122) (27/7/37)
Surgical operations under general anaesthetic ...	356	(330)
Number of abdominal sections	99	(40)

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

On January 1st, 1938, 78 patients were in hospital. During the year 523 patients were admitted, 552 discharged, 26 died, and there remained in hospital on January 1st, 1939, 23 patients.

The number of admissions shows an increase of 57 on 1937.

City cases numbered 386, while the remainder (137) came from other authorities.

Scarlet Fever.

Cases of scarlet fever numbered 237—159 city cases. In addition 14 cases had both scarlet fever and diphtheria.

11 cases admitted on a diagnosis of scarlet fever were rediagnosed as rubella while one case was rediagnosed as tonsillitis.

Two deaths occurred in scarlet fever patients, one being an adult suffering from a toxic form of the disease, the other in a child admitted from the Royal Infirmary. The child's home was in Wales. The cause of death was actually empyemia thoracis the condition for which it was admitted to the Royal Infirmary.

Diphtheria.

Cases of diphtheria numbered 183 of which 143 were City cases.

Included are 11 City and 7 outside cases of nasal diphtheria. 5 City contacts, and 8 diphtheria carriers 7 of whom were City cases.

In addition 40 cases were admitted as diphtheria and subsequently rediagnosed as tonsillitis.

Deaths from diphtheria numbered 13—9 City and 4 from other areas.

Of these deaths 3 cases were admitted on the 2nd day of disease, 2 on the 3rd day, 3 on the 4th day, 3 on the 5th day, and 1 on the 7th day and 1 on the 10th day.

Three cases died within 24 hours of admission.

Four cases were of the haemorrhagic type.

Five cases died owing to the extremely toxic condition present, and two cases died of extensive paralysis.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Cases of pulmonary tuberculosis numbered 26—20 City and 6 County.

There were 10 deaths, 9 City and 1 County.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.

One case of paratyphoid fever was admitted from an outside authority and died.

The following table is a detailed statement of the deaths in hospital :—

	City	Other	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	1	10
Diphtheria	9	4	13
Paratyphoid Fever	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	—	2
	—	—	—
Totals	20	6	26
	—	—	—

The following table gives details of the admissions :—

1938.	Pulmon- ary Tuber- culous	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Typhoid Fever.	Rubella.	Tonsil- litis.	Measles	Ery- sipelas.	Acute Anterio Polio myelitis.	Other Con- ditions	Total
Chester ...	20	172	138	...	10	36	1	1	3	5	386
County of Cheshire	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tarvin ...	...	37	30	...	1	3	1	...	...	...	72
Hoole ...	...	37	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	46
Hawarden ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Flint ...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4
R.A.F. ...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	4
Other ...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total ...	26	251	178	1	13	41	3	2	3	5	523

The diseases under "other" in the above table are scabies 1, bronchitis 1, mumps 1, pleurisy 1, influenza 1; the latter three were members of the staff.

During the year the tuberculosis open air pavilion was converted into a cubicle isolation ward giving 9 cubicles each with two beds. This will prove invaluable.

Arrangements have been made with the Liverpool Sanatorium, Delamere, to accommodate cases of pulmonary tuberculosis from the City.

Conversion of an existing ward block which became redundant in view of the cubicle isolation block was commenced. Early in 1939 it was ready as nurses' cubicles to reduce the overcrowding in the existing Nurses' Home.

2.

(1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.

No further step has been taken to make a declaration under this Act.

(2) POOR LAW MEDICAL OUT-RELIEF.

The work has been carried on as formerly by a part-time district Medical Officer.

(3) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The total accommodation available for Chester patients in Cranage Hall is as follows :—

High Grade female	18
High Grade male	10
Lowest Grade female	2
Lowest Grade male	2
	—
Total ...	32
	—

There are still Chester patients in Institutions in various parts of the country. These cases will be transferred to Cranage on further extensions being completed.

3. (1) MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

The work of the maternity unit at the City Hospital has again shown an increase. In comparison with 195 cases delivered in 1937, the number of women confined in the hospital was 268.

Five cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified.

The number of maternal deaths was 3.

The causes of death were as follows :—

1. Puerperal septicaemia.
2. Eclampsia.
3. Post-operative acute dilation of stomach.

There were 17 still births and 8 deaths of infants within 10 days of birth. These were prematurity 7, and a case of cerebral compression due to encephalo-meningocele.

At the Chester Maternity Hospital 161 cases were admitted, compared with 146 in 1937.

Two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified and there were no maternal deaths.

Four infants were still-born and there was one death of an infant within 10 days due to prematurity.

During the year the Board of Management decided to close the Hospital and it ceased to function as a maternity Hospital in the Autumn.

The work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and Antenatal Clinic has been discussed earlier in the report.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Enquiry is made into the circumstances of all cases of puerperal fever or pyrexia including a statement from the doctor and nurse attending. The nurse in attendance is limited to the case until recovery or removal to Hospital when she and her instruments are disinfected before returning to duty.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1918.

Milk has been supplied free to 3,407 applicants during the year, 602 more than 1937—206 of these were first applicants.

The reason for the increase is an alteration in the means scale and milk is now granted from the commencement of pregnancy.

The means of those applying for milk are carefully checked, and the mothers and children attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics unless special circumstances are such as to prevent this.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dental Treatment was provided for nursing and expectant mothers. The treatment is either free, or subject to part payment, according to the means of the family.

Eleven cases were treated during the year.

MIDWIVES.

Twenty midwives signified their intention to practise in 1938. At the end of the year of these 12 were in institutions, five under arrangements made in pursuance of the Midwives Act, 1936, and three were in private practice.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

The arrangements under this Act continued in force in 1938. During the year one of the six midwives resigned and owing to the number of cases dealt with it was decided not to fill that position for the time being.

The scheme generally worked well.

Under the provisions of the Midwives Act the Local Authority paid the whole or part of the doctor's fee when called in an emergency by the midwife in 99 cases, an increase of 27 from last year.

Artificial Feeding. 20 notifications were received during the year.

Total number of births notified	958
(of these 6 were notified late, 4 by doctors, and 2 by midwives)	
Cases attended and delivered by doctors	65
Cases attended in nursing homes	156
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	328
Cases attended in hospitals	409
Number of still births (19 cases belonged to Chester)	39

Of the 328 births attended by midwives, in 94 cases some condition arose requiring the calling in of Medical help either for the mother or infant. This is an increase of 27 from last year.

The reasons for requiring help were as follows:—

Fecbleness of child	2
Prolonged labour or malpresentation	14
Complications before labour	13
Complications during labour	8
Complications after labour	6
Rise of temperature	12
Discharge from the eyes	10
Lacerated perinaeum	25
Abortion	1
Prematurity	1
Skin eruption	2

The City Council has a scheme for compensation to midwives whose cases after reference by them to the City Ante-natal Clinic were subsequently admitted to hospital for confinement.

(2) INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

As was mentioned previously in the report the Maternity Hospital was closed in the autumn.

The accommodation at the City Hospital is adequate for the needs of the City.

During the year accommodation was available for healthy children up to the age of 3 years in the City Hospital, and over three years such children are accommodated in the Childrens Home, Wrexham Road, Chester.

Marasmic and ailing babies are admitted to the Children's Ward at the City Hospital.

(3) HEALTH VISITORS.

The number of health visitors is six.

The Health Visitors made the following visits:—

Primary Births Visits	616
Return Visits	3638
Visits to Children (1—5 years)	11055
Visits to Expectant Mothers	730
Other visits	1329
Visits to Midwives	18

The visits to cases of tuberculosis are shown elsewhere in the report.

(4) INFANT LIFE PROTECTION (CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1932).

This Act is administered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee.

The register is kept in the Public Health Department where all notifications are sent.

The number of children on the register at the end of the year was 12. One child attained the age of nine years.

(5) ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

As in former years this has been carried out by the Orthopaedic After-Care Committee and the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry. Fuller details of this work will be found elsewhere in the report.

(6) DENTAL TREATMENT.

This is available for children up to the age of five by arrangement with the Education Committee.

4. NURSING HOMES.

The number of nursing homes registered at the end of 1938 was 7. Two homes were registered during the year.

The following table gives particulars :—

	Number of Homes	Number of Patients provided for :—		
		Maternity	Other	Total
Homes first registered during year ...	2	—	10	10
Homes on register at the end of the year	7	13 definite plus unallocated number	35	48

Twenty inspections were made during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

I. WATER.

Chester continues to have an abundant water supply. Since the adoption of modern methods of purification the standard of purity obtained has been remarkably good; when one considers that the water is obtained from the River Dee.

The standard taken is the absence of bacillus coli from 100 c.c. of water.

On no occasion during the year has bacillus coli been found in the water as supplied to the consumer.

The water in addition to bi-monthly bacteriological examinations is examined chemically once a month.

The results of the chemical analysis for the year are as follows :—

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1938.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Colour ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Opacity ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reaction ...	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.	Alk.
Chlorides as Cl.	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.8	4.4	2.5	1.3	2.2	3.0	2.7	1.9	2.6
Free Ammonia as NH_3	.0013	.004	.004	.004	.0034	.0033	.0133	.00133	.0133	.0013	Nil.	.0012
Albuminoid Ammonia as NH_3	.003	.007	.004	.010	.003	.0095	.011	.0085	.011	.003	Nil.	.002
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C	.026	.0272	.0156	.0467	.071	.0116	.157	.0848	.0756	.1134	.121	.112
Hardness—Temporary	2.2	1.5	1.8	2.2	9.5	3.4	1.6	3.4	3.3	1.5	1.0	2.9
Hardness—Permanent	9.2	9.5	9.4	8.6	8.0	9.8	7.6	6.2	8.9	6.6	8.2	9.4
Hardness—Total	11.4	11.0	11.2	10.8	17.5	13.2	9.2	9.6	12.2	8.1	9.2	12.3

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewerage scheme for Blacon, which was fully reported upon in the Annual Report for 1937, was completed early in 1938. As anticipated many of the owners of houses abutting on the highways adjacent to the sewers, immediately proceeded to connect their drains therewith. At the year end 76 houses had their drainage systems connected with the sewers. Incidental to this work all the cesspools were abolished. Where practicable, existing drains were adapted without reconstruction. In other cases, arising out of peculiar circumstances, entirely new systems of drains were installed.

The City Engineer has now in hand the construction of sewers through the branch roads in the Blacon area and it is hoped this work will be commenced early in 1939.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In the 76 instances in Blacon where the cesspools have been abolished and the drains connected to the sewer, water closets have been substituted for pail closets, and as the sewers are extended through the branch roads arrangements are being made to facilitate the drainage from the adjoining houses. As soon as the sewers are in course of construction in the branch roads, every effort will be made to induce the property owners to provide the necessary branch drains from the sewer to a suitable point within the curtilage of their property. Such action will avoid the necessity of the re-opening of the roadway and will assist in the earlier completion of the highway.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a classified statement of the work done in the Sanitary Department during the year :—

Complaints in respect of nuisances	491
Visits in respect of nuisances	2315
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	353
Rooms disinfected for other purposes	40
Investigations into Infectious Diseases	314
Matters referred to City Surveyor	25
Tests applied to drains	566
Number of premises—	
drains found defective	149
drains repaired	145
insufficient drainage or additional drainage	42
drainage systems re-constructed	136

Ashbins provided	140
Inspection in Courts	132
Inspection of Schools	14
Inspection of Stables, etc.	28
Inspections of Canal Boats	69
Inspections of Factories and Workkshops	325
Inspections of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	375
Inspections of Slaughterhouses	1527
Inspections of Butchers' shops	1209
Inspections of Fishmongers' shops	328
Inspections of other food shops	802
Inspections of Offensive Trade Premises	9
Smoke observations	26
House to house inspections	148
Visits to Common Lodging Houses	25
Dwellings, Inspections and Re-inspections	4919
Visits in respect of Rat Nuisances	1421
Visits of Licensed Victuallers Premises	97
Visits under Shops Act, 1934	113

The following notices were served for the abatement of nuisances :—

Intimation	455
Statutory	18

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

The following legal proceedings were instituted during the year—

- (1) Public Health Act, 1936, Section 92—Defendant ordered to abate a nuisance within seven days.
- (2) Public Health Act, 1875, Sections 116-119, and Chester Corporation Act, 1929, Section 81—Defendant fined £6 and ordered to pay 7/6 costs.
- (3) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section 3—Defendant fined £1.
- (4) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section 1 ; Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, Section 126 ; Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, Section 8 (2)—Defendant was fined 20/- and ordered to pay 12/6 costs.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

One hundred and thirteen visits were paid to shops in the supervision of ventilation, lighting, heating and sanitary conveniences.

Drainage in connection with w.c.'s was carried out in two shops. Additional w.c. accommodation provided in another shop. It was found necessary to serve a statutory notice in another instance in regard to inadequate ventilation. The peculiar situation of the premises demanded a mechanical scheme. The work was nearly completed at the year end. A special fan, air ducts and a ventilation shaft were required to efficiently ventilate the premises.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no camping sites within the City. Such camping as may take place is very casual extending only for a few days. Sanitary accommodation is usually available at the adjoining farm in such cases.

SMOKE ABATEMENT AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

For the purpose of smoke abatement twenty-six observations were made. In two instances where nuisances were observed through the emission of black smoke informal action was taken. In these cases it was found that the nuisances were caused by the stoker neglecting to follow the principles of good stoking. After a warning there was no further cause for complaint.

Special investigation has been made in 1938, and will continue during 1939, into the possibility of atmospheric pollution by means other than emissions from power raising plant.

Sufficient data has not yet been obtained to make a comprehensive report this year, but it is hoped to have the investigations completed in time to provide details for inclusion in the next Annual Report.

SWIMMING BATH AND POOLS.

There are no open-air bathing pools in the City. The water from the two indoor pools at the Corporation Baths has undergone periodic bacteriological examination and proved satisfactory.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) (a) The total number of houses found to be infested with bugs and subsequently disinfested was 83. Of these, 12 were new Council houses and 2 old houses the property of the Corporation; 19 houses, included in a clearance area, were fumigated before the occupiers' furniture was transferred to a new house.

(b) There were 50 privately owned houses treated for bugs. In forty of these cases the fumigation was carried out by reason of

exchange of tenancy into a Corporation house, i.e., the tenant of a house in a clearance area taking possession of a privately owned house in favour of the occupier of that house being accommodated in a Council house.

(i) 83 houses were found to be infested, and (ii) 83 houses were disinfested.

(2) In 81 instances the houses were fumigated with Cimex and in the remaining 2 Zaldecyde spray was used.

(3) Where a house has been found to be infested, before a tenant is permitted to enter into possession of a Council house, their belongings are disinfested under the supervision of a Sanitary Inspector. After disinfestation their belongings are again examined to ascertain if they are free from vermin.

(4) The work of disinfestation has been carried out by the staff of the Health Department.

(5) Supervision of the Council houses is the work of the House Property Department. Each new tenant is presented with a copy of the Municipal Tenants Handbook and advised to use it as a guide in the maintenance of their homes. The House Property Department is ready at all times to give advice to the tenants. No opportunity is lost to advance hygienic principles in maintaining the houses.

SCHOOLS.

The inspection of schools forms a part of the routine duty of the School Medical Officer and his Deputy, and is subject of a special Annual Report.

Fourteen inspections were made by Sanitary Inspectors for the supervision of work in making good minor defects.

In all the schools throughout the City the water supply is from the Water Company's mains. The memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1927, is adhered to with regard to spread of infection.

HOUSING.

Steady progress has been maintained in all branches of housing work.

Of 239 houses situate in Princess Street, Crook Street and Goss Street Clearance Areas there are only 10 houses from which the occupiers

have yet to be dispossessed. Those houses provide accommodation for 41 persons and they will be dealt with as speedily as possible. During the year 59 houses have been vacated. Demolition of the buildings in these areas is proceeding and during the year 112 houses and several other buildings have been demolished.

There remains 127 houses in the three areas yet to be demolished and these, together with the remaining other buildings, will be included in a second contract.

In May the Minister of Health held a Public Inquiry in respect of nine Clearance Areas and, with certain modifications, Clearance Orders were confirmed as follows :—

- Weaver Street Area comprising 25 houses.
- Commonhall Street No. 1 Area comprising 23 houses.
- Commonhall Street No. 2 Area comprising 2 houses.
- Commonhall Street No. 3 Area comprising 15 houses.
- Pesnett Court Area comprising 8 houses.
- Cuppin Street Area comprising 7 houses.
- Star Court Area comprising 3 houses.
- Higginson's Court Area comprising 5 houses.
- Davies Court Area comprising 17 houses.
- Total, 105 houses.

These houses provide accommodation for 346 persons and arrangements have been made for their rehousing.

Subsequent to this enquiry further surveys were made in respect of two other areas in another part of the City. At the year end the surveys had been completed and representations may be made at an early date. Forty-nine houses and other buildings, comprising these areas, were inspected and recorded.

As a result of informal action one unoccupied house, 4, Victoria Place, has been demolished by the owner in anticipation of formal procedure.

Two houses, 47 and 49-51, Boughton, which were unfit for habitation and were closed in April, 1937, and in respect of which undertakings were accepted by the City Council that they would not be let for habitation have been demolished by the owner.

A review has been made of the 406 houses which were overcrowded at the end of 1937 and it is found that 114 cases of overcrowding have been relieved during the year.

Of the number of cases relieved 14 were provided with the necessary accommodation by the City Council.

Ten new cases of overcrowding resulted from family circumstances.

The following table sets out the notices served in respect of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

Form A.—Request for names and addresses of persons having interests in houses	51
Form 1.—Notice of intention to survey houses, etc.	87
Form 4.—Notice of time and place when question of making a demolition order will be considered	2
Form 5.—Order for demolition of a house	1
Form 14.—Notice to owners, etc., of the making of a Clearance Area	75
	Total notices 216

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts) ... 1353
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 4341
- (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 148
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 578
- (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 49
- (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 681

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	585
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

- (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
 - (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By Owners Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 17 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By Owners | 17 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 302 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 313 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 2121 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 10 |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 114 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 661 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.—See preamble to this schedule. | |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The registered number of milk producers remains the same as last year, namely, 16.

Six of the producers possess licences as "Accredited Producers" under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board.

During the year 375 visits were made to Dairies and Cowsheds. There are 175 persons registered to sell milk within the City and of that number 61 are retailers of milk in sealed bottles only as received by them from the producers.

The cowsheds, dairies and milkshops were maintained in satisfactory condition.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

(1) *For Tubercle Bacilli.*

Fifty-three samples were submitted to the Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Chester, for examination. As a result of an accident 12 of the samples could not be satisfactorily completed. Of the remaining 41 samples, 6 (or 14.6 per cent.) proved to be positive. The milk was produced on farms outside the City. Results of the tests were forwarded to the appropriate officers, and subsequent reports proved successful action had been taken to eliminate the affected animals.

(2) *For Cleanliness.*

36 Samples were examined in the Municipal Laboratory and were found satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1936 and 1938.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

Producers' Licences—"Accredited"	6
Pasteuriser's Licence	1
Supplementary Licences to sell :—	
"Certified Milk"	3
"Accredited Milk"	2
"Pasteurised Milk"	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The protection of the Food Supply is of paramount importance in safeguarding the health of the public. It is essential that the handling of foodstuffs from the source of production to the consumer should be such that the food is preserved in a clean and wholesome condition. For that purpose all stores, stalls and vehicles used in the preparation, storage or retailing of food are kept under regular supervision. As regards meat supply the slaughterhouses in the City and the wholesale and retailers premises are regularly visited. It is recognised, for the successful carrying out of this work the sanitary inspectors should possess special qualifications. There are five inspectors so qualified, and it is part of their duty to inspect all foodstuffs in their respective districts in the City. The qualifications of the inspectors have been

approved by the Minister of Health and each inspector has been allocated an identification mark to be used in the marking of meat. The marking scheme is prescribed under Part III of the Meat Regulations, 1924, and is in operation in the Public Abattoir, where 13,594 carcasses were inspected and so marked. More than two-thirds of the fresh meat supply of the City is prepared in the Public Abattoir. No charge is made for meat marking and the success of the scheme in Chester is due to the co-operation of the master butchers.

The work is discharged with a minimum inconvenience to the trade and without friction.

The spirit of co-operation now existing with the inspectors of neighbouring authorities is much appreciated.

During routine inspection it was found necessary to seize a small quantity of tripe which had been sold and was unfit for food. The Public Health Committee instructed that a warning letter be sent to the vendor.

One cow was seized in the Cattle Saleyard as being unfit for food. The seizure was made under the Public Health Act, 1875 (Sections 116-119) and the Chester Corporation Act, 1929, Section 81. Legal Proceedings were instituted in this case and the owner of the animal was fined £6 and ordered to pay 7/6d. special costs.

Proceedings were also instituted for the slaughter of a sheep in a stable. There were three contraventions in this case under (1) Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, Section 126; (2) Meat Regulations, 1924, Section 8 (2); and (3) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, Section 1. The defendant was fined £1 in the first case, and ordered to pay 12/6d. costs in respect of the other two cases.

The following statistics set out the slaughtering which took place in the City :—

Place.	Cattle (not including) Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Public Abattoir	1125	476	655	10070	1268	13594
Private Slaughterhouses ...	926	61	184	4043	881	6095
Total	2051	537	839	14113	2149	19689

For the purpose of food inspection the following visits were made to :—

Slaughterhouses (not including Abattoir)	1527
Butcher's shops	1209
Fishmonger's Shops	328
Other food shops, stores, etc.	802
Total ...	3866

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1938.

				Cattle (excluding) Cows.	Cows	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed	...	...	...	2051	537	839	14113	2149
Number Inspected	...	...	...	2051	537	839	14113	2149
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS								
Whole Carcases condemned	...		...	3	1	2	3	6
Carcases of which some part or Organ was condemned	...		...	81	49	15	95	49
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4'09	9'3	2'03	0'68	2'5
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY								
Whole Carcases condemned	...		...	23	3	1		7
Carcases of which some part or Organ was condemned	...		...	235	148	5		225
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis	...		...	12'5	26'2	0'7		10'7

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED.

ARTICLES CONDEMNED.	Number.	REASON FOR CONDEMNATION.
BEEF.		
Carcases and offal... ..	26	Generalised Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " "	2	Febrility
" " " " " " " "	2	Septicæmia
Organs or portions of carcasses ...	537	Localised Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " "	168	Parasitic and other conditions
PORK.		
Carcases and offal	7	Generalised Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " "	6	Febrile
Organs or portions of carcasses ...	262	Localised Tuberculosis
" " " " " " " "	71	Parasitic & other conditions
MUTTON.		
Carcases and offal	2	Oedema
Carcase and offal	1	Febrile
Organs or portions of carcasses ...	101	Parasitic and other conditions

ARTICLES CONDEMNED.	Number	REASON FOR CONDEMNATION.
VEAL.		
Carcase and offal	1	Congenital Tuberculosis
" "	1	Umbilical Pyæmia
" "	1	Febrile
Organs	5	Localised Tuberculosis
" or portions of Carcases ...	15	Other Conditions
FISH.		
Cod, fillets (stones)	13½	Decomposed or otherwise
Cod, whole (stones)	10½	" " [unfit]
Plaice (box)	1	" "
Mixed fish (box)	1	" "
Crab (tins)	7	" "
Pilchards (tins)	9	" "
Salmon (tins)	2	" "
Fish Cakes (boxes)	2	" "
FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.		
Pineapples (cubes & slices) (tins)	90	" "
Plums (tins)	69	" "
Tins (mixed)	52	" "
Pears (tins)... ..	44	" "
Oranges (tins)	31	" "
Gooseberries (tins)	23	" "
Cherries (tins)	20	" "
Peaches (tins)	19	" "
Damsons (tins)	13	" "
Greengages (tins)	7	" "
Beans (tins)	7	" "
Fruit Salad (tins)	6	" "
Tomatoes (tins)	5	" "
Black Currants (tins)	2	" "
Grape Fruit (tins)... ..	2	" "
Peas (tins)	1	" "
Pickles (Jars)	23	" "
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Imported Beef (lbs)	369	" "
Imported Mutton (lbs.)	165	" "
Imported Lambs' Liver (tins) ...	51	" "
Lunch Ham (tins)	11	" "
Spiced Ham (tins)	4	" "
Corned Beef (tins)	4	" "
Jellied Veal (tins)	3	" "
Roast Beef (tins)	3	" "
Corned Pork (tins)... ..	2	" "
Pork and Beans (tins)	3	" "
Soups (tins)	2	" "
Boiled Beef (tin)	1	" "
Ox Tongue (tin)	1	" "
Whole Roast Chicken (tin)	1	" "
Sausages (lbs)	30	" "
Cooked Turkeys	2	" "
Imported Turkey	1	" "
Tomato Ketchup (jar)	1	" "

Estimated weight of food stuffs condemned :—18 tons, 2 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Two new licences and 59 renewal licences were issued to fit and proper persons for the slaughter of animals.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a slaughterman for slaughtering an animal and not being in possession of a licence. He was fined £1.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

Of 180 samples of food and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, 84 were formally obtained and 96 informally. Four milk samples, one margarine and one of sausages were adversely reported upon. One other sample of milk, No. 124, proved to be slightly below the standard for solids not fat, but the freezing point was normal and there was no evidence of added water.

The circumstances relating to these samples are set out in the schedule of administrative action which follows.

No. of Sample.	Name of Article.	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.
2	Milk ..	3% deficient in Fat.	Warning letter sent to vendor.
12	Milk ..	28% deficient in Fat.	Case dismissed on payment of costs, £1 5s.
22	Margarine Informal Sample	Contained 1.7% excess water.	No action: Formal sample taken was certified genuine.
63	Milk ..	8.3% deficient in Fat	Letters calling attention to result of analysis sent to vendor and producer.
67	Milk ..	3% deficient in Fat.	Warning letter to retailer who was also producer.
99	Sausages Informal Sample	Contained 166 parts per million Sulphur Dioxide. No notice of sausages containing preservative at time of purchase.	Verbal warning to manager of store. Notice displayed at time of taking a formal sample.
124	Milk ..	Slightly below standards for solids not fat, but no evidence of added water. Freezing point normal.	Result of Analysis sent to producer.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF MILK.

The average quality of the milk samples examined during the year was Fat 3.88 per cent. and Solids-not-fat 8.8 per cent. as compared with 3.54 per cent. and 8.69 per cent. respectively in 1937. The prescribed standards for milk are fat 3 per cent. and solids-not-fat 8.5 per cent.

The following table gives the composition of the milk samples analysed :—

Month 1938.	Sample No.	Fat per cent.	Solids not Fat per cent.	Month 1938	Sample No	Fat per cent.	Solids not Fat per cent.
Feb.	1	6.30	8.50	June	70	3.40	8.80
	2	2.90	8.66		71	3.60	8.60
	3	6.55	8.61		82	3.53	8.89
	4	3.85	8.81		83	3.40	9.16
	5	3.65	8.75		84	3.00	8.92
	6	3.50	8.74		85	3.30	8.84
Mar.	7	3.35	8.51	Sept.	86	3.90	8.80
	8	3.80	9.06		87	3.45	8.77
	9	3.45	8.75		116	3.10	9.14
	10	3.00	8.60		117	3.15	9.39
	11	3.45	8.83		118	3.80	9.04
	12	2.15	9.20		119	3.50	9.08
	13	3.60	8.78	Nov.	120	3.35	9.03
	34	3.10	8.60		121	4.00	8.60
	35	4.70	8.52		122	3.50	8.74
	36	3.55	8.89		123	4.65	8.73
	37	3.55	8.95		124	4.50	8.16
	38	3.35	8.89		125	3.90	8.72
May	39	5.00	8.94		126	4.00	9.30
	40	3.60	8.84		127	3.75	8.81
	56	3.80	8.76		128	4.25	8.50
	57	3.40	8.90		129	3.75	8.93
	58	3.00	9.04		130	3.00	9.54
	59	3.25	9.05		131	3.85	8.67
	60	3.80	8.80		132	5.35	8.69
	61	3.50	8.78		133	3.80	8.70
	62	3.45	8.83		134	3.65	8.63
	63	2.75	8.63		135	3.95	8.53
June	64	3.55	9.01		136	4.10	8.50
	65	3.45	9.25		137	4.05	8.51
	66	3.75	8.50		138	3.55	8.79
	67	2.90	8.90		139	3.75	8.91
	68	4.85	8.73		140	3.80	8.88
	69	3.70	9.04		141	4.00	8.52
					142	3.45	8.79
Total Samples 78 No. of Samples below standards of Milk Regulations 1901. 5 or 6.4% Averages :— } Fat 3.88% } Solids not Fat 8.8%				Dec	143	4.10	8.82
					144	4.30	9.16
					168	3.60	8.78
					169	4.25	8.99
					170	3.95	8.67
					175	3.30	9.00
					176	3.75	8.69
					177	4.10	8.68
					178	4.05	8.73

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

During 1938 I received 180 samples, 84 of which were formal, and 96 informal, as set out in the following table:—

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

ANALYSES.				ADULTERATED SAMPLE ETC.		
Article.	Formal	In-formal.	Total.	Formal	In-formal	Total.
Milk	76	2	78	4	...	4
Beer	...	6	6	...	...	...
Margarine	1	4	5	...	1	1
Butter	...	4	4	...	...	...
Lard	...	4	4	...	...	...
Tea	...	4	4	...	...	...
Cream (Tinned)	...	4	4	...	...	...
Custard Powder	...	4	4	...	...	...
Mincemeat	...	4	4	...	...	...
Sweets	...	4	4	...	...	...
Sausages	1	3	4	...	1	1
Cream	...	3	3	...	...	...
Castor Oil	...	3	3	...	...	...
Rice	...	3	3	...	...	...
Jams	...	3	3	...	...	...
Marmalade	...	3	3	...	...	...
Condensed Milk	...	3	3	...	...	...
Self-Raising Flour	...	3	3	...	...	...
Fruit Wines	...	3	3	...	...	...
Glycerine	...	2	2	...	...	...
Olive Oil	...	2	2	...	...	...
Liquid Paraffin	...	2	2	...	...	...
Fish Pastes	...	2	2	...	...	...
Baking Powder	...	2	2	...	...	...
Whisky	2	...	2	...	...	...
Rum	2	...	2	...	...	...
Port	2	...	2	...	...	...
Lemon Cheese	...	2	2	...	...	...
Mixed Dried Fruit	...	2	2	...	...	...
Candied Peel	...	2	2	...	...	...
Bread	...	2	2	...	...	...
Tomatoes (Tinned)	...	2	2	...	...	...
Camphorated Oil	...	1	1	...	...	...
Aspirin Tablets	...	1	1	...	...	...
Boracic Ointment	...	1	1	...	...	...
Boracic Powder	...	1	1	...	...	...
Stomach Powder	...	1	1	...	...	...
Peas (Tinned)	...	1	1	...	...	...
Peas (Dried)... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
Peaches (Tinned)	...	1	1	...	...	...
Apricots (Tinned)	...	1	1	...	...	...
Totals	84	96	180	4	2	6

Out of the above, four samples of milk were below the prescribed standards. Another sample of milk was found to be slightly below the standard for solids-not-fat, but the freezing point of the milk showed no evidence of added water. This sample was therefore counted as 'genuine'.

One margarine (informal) sample contained 1.7 per cent. of water above the standard of 16 per cent. The following up sample, taken formally, was however genuine. One informal sample of sausages contained preservative and no notice had been given of this fact at the time of purchase. The amount of preservative in the sample was in accordance with the Preservatives in Food Regulations. The remaining samples were genuine.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.I.C.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

The chemical examination of food is undertaken by the City Analyst whilst the bacteriological examination of milk is carried out in our own Municipal Laboratory.

Samples of milk for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli are sent to the Chester Royal Infirmary.

In cases of suspected food poisoning the Local Authority is required to send samples of the suspected food, together with other material, to the Medical Department of the Ministry of Health.

NUTRITION.

The scheme for the provision of free milk to badly nourished children was continued during the year under the auspices of the Education Authority. During the year a scheme was inaugurated whereby thirty selected children suffering from malnutrition had free dinners daily.

Fuller reports about both these schemes are contained in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for 1938.

SHELL FISH (MOLLUSCAN).

There are no shell fish beds or layings within the boundary of the City of Chester.

SPECIAL CLASSES OF PREMISES, Etc., SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are three registered common lodging houses within the City. During the year 25 visits were made. Steps have been taken to bring these common lodging houses up-to-date to conform with the new Byelaws and the Public Health Act, 1936.

The Fire Superintendent has reported the necessity of escape in case of fire and specifications of the necessary appliances have been forwarded to the registered keepers. The accommodation has been adjusted in accordance with the Byelaws. There is accommodation for 103 male lodgers in the three houses.

There is no common lodging house in the City for females.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Byelaws have been approved by the Minister of Health for houses let in lodgings which come into operation on the 1st February, 1939.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are now 36 of these premises within the City and all were regularly inspected during the year.

The advantage of the use of electricity or gas in the cooking ranges is a marked improvement as the smell emanating from the cooking process gives rise to fewer complaints. No doubt the new type of range has done much to eliminate the odours.

HOMEWORKERS.

Lists of Homeworkers were received during the months of February and August. The lists included the names and addresses of fourteen homeworkers within the City and three in other areas. Due notices have been forwarded to the Local Authorities concerned in respect of those non-resident. Their occupations were—(a) Tailoring 12, (b) Boot Repairing 5,

The homes are visited by Health Visitors and were found to be satisfactory.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS.

A considerable amount of work in connection with sanitary conveniences in licensed premises has been carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors. For this purpose 97 visits were made.

RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911 and 1928.

Four samples of flock were submitted for analysis and were certified to contain 9.7, 16.5, 7.8 and 9.7 parts per 100,000 of chlorine respectively.

The standard for chlorine is 30 parts per 100,000.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

In addition to the Sanitary Inspectors one whole-time Rat-catcher is engaged throughout the year in dealing with vermin pests.

1,421 visits were made, 186 by Sanitary Inspectors and 1,235 by the Rat-catcher.

The following sets out the work done by the Rat-catcher.

Number of Visits	1235
Method—	
Traps	213
Poison	528
Rats Caught	643

During the week ended 12th November, 1938, the National Campaign against rats took place. During that week a special staff was employed under the supervision of a Sanitary Inspector. As the result of publicity the public co-operated in the work. Thirty-two applications were received for free poison bait and eighteen for the loan of traps. Three hundred pounds of poison bait was used during the week and subsequent inspection proved it to have been freely taken.

CANAL BOATS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—PART X.

The following schedule gives particulars in respect of the registration of Canal Boats and work of inspection during the year :—

Number of boats added to Register in 1938	Nil
Number re-registered owing to structural alterations	Nil
Number re-registered owing to other reasons	Nil
Total number registered to 31st December, 1938	148
Total number of registrations cancelled during 1938	Nil
Number of boats inspected during 1938	69
Number of boats infringing Acts and Regulations	3
Total number for which cabins registered	244½
Total number occupying the cabins	214

Details of occupation :—

Male adults	73
Female adults	69
Children under school age	36
Children of school age	36

Details showing numbers infringing in respect to—

1	Overcrowding	1
2	Painting	2
3	Dilapidation	3
6	Total cases met with.	Total cases remedied 6

Number of legal proceedings taken	Nil
Number of printed Notice Forms issued	3
Number of Notices attended to	3
Number still corresponding about	Nil

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The notifications of infectious diseases during the fifty-two weeks ended 31st December, 1938, are as follows:—scarlet fever 175, diphtheria 138, enteric fever 1, pneumonia 23, erysipelas 8, puerperal pyrexia 14.

The notification of infectious disease per 1,000 population is as follows:—

	Enteric Fever	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
England and Wales	0.03	2.41	1.58	1.10	0.40
Smaller Towns	0.04	2.58	1.53	0.98	0.39
Chester	0.02	3.9	3.1	0.5	0.18

The rates for puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia are best expressed per 1,000 total births.

	England and Wales	Smaller Towns	Chester
Puerperal pyrexia	14.42	12.51	20.8

Immunisation against diphtheria was carried on during the year.

Total number of children immunised during the year was 245. Of this number 81 were pre-school and the remainder of school age.

In addition, 1054 children were posterior schick tested. Of these 164 were schick positive and 890 schick negative.

138 children were further immunised after schick testing.

The arrangements for the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin for use in emergency and necessitous cases remains as before. A medical practitioner can obtain at any hour, day or night, a supply of anti-toxin from the Town Hall.

Similarly throat swabs from suspect cases of diphtheria can be sent to the Town Hall after office hours. The Medical Officer of Health, or his Deputy, are informed of the message and place the swab on the appropriate medium, incubate overnight, and a report is issued to the medical practitioner in the morning.

Delay in the investigation of a case is thus reduced to a minimum. This facility is available on Sundays in addition.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

DISEASE	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 3.	3 and under 4.	4 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.	Total cases.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	1	5	8	8	11	52	30	8	10	4	1	0	138	138	9
Scarlet Fever	0	6	8	13	15	67	37	10	10	5	0	1	175	172	1
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	8	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	12	1	0	0	14	0	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Typhoid... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Para Typhoid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Small Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Pneumonia	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	3	6	5	24	0	63
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	3	0

CLEANSING AND DISINFESTATION OF VERMINOUS PERSONS AND THEIR BELONGINGS.

A shampoo station is freely used for the cleansing of heads of school children. In cases of body vermin, which are fortunately few, they are treated at the Disinfecting Station at the Isolation Hospital, where clothes and bedding are also treated. Occasionally we are asked to deal with an adult, who is dealt with in a similar fashion.

CANCER.

Facilities for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer are available at the Chester Royal Infirmary which is equipped with Radium Deep X-Ray Therapy and Endo-diathermy supplied by the Cheshire and North Wales Group Executive of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

The Radium Department was opened in 1930 and Dr. Ralston Paterson of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, acts as consultant.

Cases of cancer are sent from the City and surrounding areas. Beds are available for in-patient treatment in the Royal Infirmary.

City Cases can be admitted to the City Hospital administered by the Local Authority, but only operative treatment can be undertaken and if Radium or Deep X-Ray Therapy is necessary, cases may be transferred for treatment in the Royal Infirmary.

DEATHS FROM CANCER IN 1938.

Age Periods.					Males	Fe- Males
0	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	1
15	...	...	...	...	1	...
25	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	...	1	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	9
55	...	...	...	...	13	9
65	...	...	...	...	11	9
75 and upwards	...	...	...	...	5	11
Totals					31	39

Classification of deaths from cancer according to site of disease :

	Males	Females
Tonsil	—	—
Larynx	2	—
Mediastinum	—	—
Thyroid	—	—
Antrum	—	—
Lung	—	—
Tongue	3	—
Pharynx	1	—
Oesophagus	3	1
Stomach	6	9
Duodenum	—	—
Small intestine	—	1
Colon	6	7
Rectum	3	3
Pancreas	1	4
Liver	—	—
Gall Bladder	—	1
Peritoneum	—	—
Prostrate	2	—
Bladder	—	—
Kidney	—	—
Skin	1	2
Bone	1	—
Breast	—	6
Uterus	—	1
Cervix Uteri	—	2
Ovary	—	1
Other	2	1
Total ...	31	39

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

The care of the blind in Chester has been delegated to the Chester Society for the Home Teaching of the Blind. The Local Authority has adopted a scheme for regulating the financial assistance given to them and their position has been improved during the year. A general supervision of the work of the Society in Chester is undertaken by the Local Authority and the homes of the blind visited and their comfort seen to as far as possible. The Local Authority have two representatives on the Committee of Management.

There were 92 persons on the register at the end of the year and the Local Authority paid to the Society £3,240 in the year, and have estimated £3,400 for the current year. There have been 22 licences issued for wireless sets to blind people.

The Health Visitors paid 306 visits to Blind Persons during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified.	Cases Treated.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	At Home.	In Hospital				
3	2	1	3	—	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 66.

A scheme under this section was approved by the Ministry of Health in 1937.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1938.

Particular of new cases of tuberculosis and mortality during 1938 are given below :—

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
1—	...	...	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
5—	...	...	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	2	3	2	3	1	3	1	0
25—	...	...	4	2	1	1	5	1	0	1
35—	...	...	7	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
45—	...	...	8	1	0	0	6	2	0	0
55—	...	...	6	1	1	0	3	1	0	0
65 and upwards...			0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	...		28	7	8	9	18	7	2	5

No deaths occurred during the year in non-notified cases.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There has been no occasion to act on this regulation.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1938.

49

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Total Deaths						Total Deaths under 1 Year			
	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes { Certified. Uncertified.	14 ..	1 ..	2 ..	..	17 ..	11 ..	11 ..	3 ..	6 ..	48 ..
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis (b) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
Laryngitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	1	3	11
Diarrhoea ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
Enteritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	2	5
Gastritis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Suffocation. Overlying ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations (c) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Premature Births ..	8	1	1	..	10	2	1	..	..	13
Atrophv. Debility and Marasmus ..	1	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	4
Other Causes ..	3	..	1	..	4	1	..	..	1	6
Totals ..	14	1	2	..	17	11	11	3	6	48

Nett Births in the year, legitimate, 613; illegitimate, 31. Net Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 43; illegitimate infants, 5.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1938 and previous years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		Un-corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	Number	Of Non-residents registered in the District	Of Resi-dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate						Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1928	40,982	791	696	16.9	554	13.51	190	103	41	58.9	467	16.8	
1929	40,920	805	707	17.25	689	16.83	211	148	55	77.7	626	14.3	
1930	40,910	798	667	16.3	616	15.5	172	141	48	71.96	585	13.60	
1931	41,380	799	671	16.11	595	14.37	196	147	46	68.5	546	12.47	
1932	41,350	804	686	16.5	592	14.31	205	150	37	53.0	537	12.08	
1933	41,070	698	590	14.4	606	14.7	200	136	40	67.7	542	13.19	
1934	40,800	795	654	16.0	613	15.0	248	172	47	71.8	533	13.06	
1935	40,500	672	567	14.0	621	15.3	252	183	43	75.8	552	13.6	
1936	45,131	852	663	15.1	754	17.1	267	73	34	51.3	600	13.0	
1937	44,610	882	656	14.7	845	18.9	248	37	39	59.6	634	14.7	
1938	44,360	667	644	14.5	813	18.3	237	25	48	74.3	601	14.0	

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 4,142

No. of inhabited houses, 11,951.

* Total deaths occurring in Chester whether of residents or non-residents.

† Births and deaths corrected for these births and deaths properly belonging to Chester, but occurring outside the District, or occurring in the District but properly belong outside.

NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER
OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH		At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 55.	55 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and up- wards.
ALL CAUSES.													
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
4	Whooping Cough	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Diphtheria	9	...	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Influenza	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	2	1
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	25	...	...	...	...	4	6	3	8	4	...	...
10	Other Tuberculous Disease	7	1	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
11	Syphilis	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
12	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
13	Cancer, Malignant Disease	70	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	9	22	20	16
14	Diabetes	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2
15	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	36	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	5	14	15
16	Heart Disease	105	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	10	27	58	64
17	Aneurysm	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
18	Other circulatory diseases	24	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	8	9
19	Bronchitis	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	63	17	6	3	1	2	3	2	9	8	6	...
21	Other Respiratory Diseases	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	3
22	Peptic Ulcer	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	1
23	Diarrhoea, etc.	6	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Appendicitis	8	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	2	...
25	Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
26	Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
27	Other Digestive Diseases	14	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	1	4	1	3
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	15	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	5	2	4
29	Puerperal Sepsis	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
30	Other Puerperal Causes	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
31	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32	Senility	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12
33	Suicide	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...
34	Other Violence	20	1	...	2	...	1	4	2	1	2	4	3
35	Other Defined Diseases	45	4	3	...	3	4	1	2	3	6	11	8
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
		601	48	13	12	12	18	24	28	54	101	141	150

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 and the Factories Act 1937 (which superceded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938.

IN CONNECTION WITH

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework, 1938.

1. INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	176	8	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	95	3	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	54	1	—
Total	325	12	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found (2)	Remed'd (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of Cleanliness S. 1	2	2	—	—
Want of Ventilation S. 4	4	3	—	—
Overcrowding S. 2	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors S. 6	—	—	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient	1	1	—	—
Conveniences { unsuitable or defective	7	6	—	—
S. 7 { not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other Offences	1	1	—	—
Total	16	14*	—	Nil

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

SECTION 108.

Nature of Work. (1)	Instances (2)	Notices Served. (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Wearing Apparel. —			
Making, &c.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cleaning and Washing	"	"	"

* The two defects outstanding in one factory, although not completed were in hand at the year end.

